

**THIRD**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**MANAGERS**  
**OF THE**  
**COLONIZATION SOCIETY**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF CONNECTICUT.**  
**WITH AN**  
**APPENDIX.**  
**MAY, 1830.**

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**NEW-HAVEN:**  
**PRINTED BY BALDWIN AND TREADWAY.**  
**1830.**

## ANNUAL MEETING.

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THE third annual meeting of the Colonization Society of the State of Connecticut, was held, by adjournment, in the centre church in the city of New-Haven, May 18, 1830. His Honor JOHN S. PETERS, one of the Managers of the Society, in the chair.

The Treasurer's account, and the Annual Report were read and accepted.

The following resolutions were adopted.

*Resolved*, That the Annual Report be printed for distribution.

*Also, Resolved*, That the clergy of the various religious denominations in this State, be respectfully invited to present the interests of the American Colonization Society to their respective congregations, on the fourth day of July next, and to solicit contributions in its behalf.

The meeting was addressed in support of these resolutions, by Hon. Roger M. Sherman, Rev. Leonard Bacon, and Rev. T. H. Gallaudet.

The following gentlemen, at a previous meeting, were elected officers of the Society for the ensuing year.

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### OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY,

ELECTED AT THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING.

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HIS EXC. GIDEON TOMLINSON, *President*.

HON. JOHN T. PETERS, Hartford, }  
PROF. BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, Yale College, } *V. Presidents.*

REV. THOMAS H. GALLAUDET, Hartford, *Secretary.*

SETH TERRY, Esq. Hartford, *Treasurer.*

HIS HONOR JOHN S. PETERS, Hebron,

HON. EBENEZER YOUNG, Killingly,

REV. JOEL H. LINSLEY, Hartford,

REV. SAMUEL MERWIN, New-Haven,

RT. REV. T. C. BROWNELL, Wash. College,

REV. LEONARD BACON, New-Haven,

HON. SETH P. BEERS, Litchfield,

HON. JOHN ALSOP, Middletown,

HON. RALPH I. INGERSOLL, New-Haven,

} *Managers.*

# THIRD

## ANNUAL REPORT.



ABOUT ten years ago, the Rt. Rev. William Meade of Virginia visited Connecticut, and by his exertions a society auxiliary to the American Colonization Society was formed at Hartford. Its officers were chosen, and circulars extensively distributed for the purpose of diffusing information on the subject. But such was the general apathy, the incredulity of many, and the hostility of some of our most respectable citizens, with regard to the project of colonization, that very little impression was made in its favor. The consequence was, that at the first annual meeting of the Society, only two of its members attended, and it became extinct.

Some years afterwards, the Rev. R. R. Gurley, the present Secretary of the parent Society, visited Hartford, with a view again to attempt the organization of an auxiliary. Public sentiment was not yet ripe for such a measure, and nothing was done on the part of Mr. Gurley, but to appoint an agent, who soon found that his principal duty consisted only in meeting, and endeavoring to answer objections.

In the mean time the prospects of the Society at Washington were brightening. Local jealousies were subsiding; conflicting prejudices were destroying each other; the germ of the Society's future greatness was actually planted, and had taken root, and sprung up, and borne fruit in its infant colony in Africa, and some

of her hapless sons were reposing beneath the shade of its branches, young yet and tender, but growing with a growth, and strengthening with a strength, that afforded a delightful promise of overshadowing, ere long, the whole extent of that neglected and degraded continent.

The Society gained a few friends in Connecticut who employed their influence in its behalf. They endeavored to remove prejudices, and to show that the objects which the Society had in view, were not sectional, but national; not temporary, but durable as the very existence of our republic, affecting millions yet unborn, and extending their influence into eternity.

Mr. Gurley again visited Connecticut, and through his exertions, the present Society was organized in May, 1827. Since its formation it has been making a gradual and sure progress, and it now includes among its warmest advocates, not a few of our most intelligent and influential citizens.

A deep interest has been manifested on this subject in our churches. In May 1827, the convention of the Congregational clergy in Connecticut recommended the Society "to the charitable consideration of the Congregational churches in this State, as an institution worthy of the patronage of individuals, of the States, and of the nation." They also approved of collections "on the Sabbath immediately preceding or succeeding the fourth of July annually."

A few years ago, at the New-York annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a resolution was passed, recommending that the preachers composing that body should take up a collection on the fourth of July in aid of the objects of the Society. At the Baptist General Convention in 1826, a deep interest was expressed in the exertions of the Society, and it was recommended to the friends of Africa of that denomination, to take up collections on the fourth of July, in aid of the funds of the Society.

The combined influence of these causes and measures upon the prosperity of the Society, will appear from the Treasurer's report. The receipts during the current year, are double in amount to the whole that was received during the two preceding years.

One auxiliary society has been formed in Windham County,—an example which it is earnestly to be hoped will be speedily followed throughout the State.

In connection, too, with these encouraging prospects of the Society, and as forming an important part of the great plan of operation, we would hail as an evidence of the interest which a large body of our Christian brethren are taking in this object, the establishment, under the auspices of the Protestant Episcopal church, of an African Mission school in Hartford.

This institution expects to send three of its pupils this autumn to Africa ; two as missionaries, and one as a catechist and school-master.

An African Education Society was also established at Washington in December last. It has the promise of as many youth from the slave population as it can receive. It has purchased a convenient dwelling at the seat of government for the accommodation of pupils, and here under the eye of the rulers of our country, and our representatives in Congress, it is to be hoped that the patronage it will obtain, and the influence it will exert, will be commensurate with the extent of the objects which it aims to accomplish.

The progress which the American Colonization Society has made in this State, is small, however, compared with the still greater success that has attended its efforts in other parts of the Union. Every victory which it gains over opposition, affords an additional omen of its final and complete triumph. Its bitterest enemies are becoming its warmest friends, and like Saul of Tarsus, the more fearlessly do they advocate the cause against which they but lately breathed out threatenings.

This change in public opinion, and the means by which it has been produced, demand the serious consideration of every patriot, philanthropist and christian. What must be the character and objects of a Society which can produce such a change ?

At its commencement it had to encounter obstacles of the most appalling kind.

Doubts, fears, and prejudices assailed it ; and these from all sections of our country. The motives of those who originated it, their designs, their plans, their proceedings, were alike the object

of ridicule and reproach. This opposition too, strange as it may seem, arose both from the advocates of slavery, and from the friends of emancipation. At the south, it was accused of interfering with the rights of personal property, with the very ownership of the master in his slaves, and with the cruel purpose of exciting among them the spirit of insubordination, revolt, and bloodshed. At the north, it was regarded with a suspicious jealousy, as aiming, covertly, and gradually, but not the less surely, to render the bondage of the negro perpetual, and to entail this curse and reproach of our country, upon posterity, by removing one of the most powerful causes of alarm to the slave holder, the influence of an increasing host of free people of color.

Its little colony at Liberia was deemed but the baseless fabric of a distempered and misguided enthusiasm, promising no benefits either to our own land or to Africa, and portending nothing but disappointment, death and ruin to the unhappy victims who should be sent there.

But these clouds which cast a momentary gloom over the prospects of the American Colonization Society, are dissipating; the mists of prejudice are retiring; its sun has arisen, "as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race." The prophecy of its late venerable president Bushrod Washington, whose death we have deeply to deplore, is fast receiving its accomplishment. "Among all the magnificent plans," said he, "carrying on for the improvement and happiness of mankind, in many parts of the world, there is, perhaps, none upon which we may more confidently implore the blessing of heaven, than that in which we are now associated. Whether we consider the grandeur of the subject, or the wide sphere of philanthropy which it embraces; or, whether we view the present state of its progress, under the auspices of this society, and under the obstacles which might have been expected from the cupidity of many, we may discover, in each, a certain pledge, that the same benignant hand which has made these preparatory arrangements will crown their efforts with success."

Could this kinsman of the illustrious father of his country, occupying for more than thirty years, a seat in our highest judicial tri-

bunal, exhibiting on all occasions, the attributes of a sound, comprehensive, and learned mind ; fulfilling his arduous duties with rigid integrity and cloudless honor ;" could the pious Finley whose benevolent soul first conceived the stupendous plan, of forming a colony of our free people of color in Africa ; and the saint-like Mills, one of the pioneers of its progress, who leaving the scene of his indefatigable labors, soon died and found a tomb beneath the ocean-wave ; and the self-denying Ashmun, who from this city ascended to heaven, and whose soul, as if reluctant to leave its beloved sphere of duty, devoted till the last moment of its departure, all its capacities of thought, of speech, and of action, to the great objects of the Society ; could these, and others of their illustrious associates who have sacrificed their lives in its service ; could all these have embarked in any other than a holy cause ;— can the host of its living patrons, among whom we find many of the most distinguished of our citizens, in all parts of the Union ; of clergy and laity of various religious denominations ; of individuals in public and in private life of different political views ; among the inhabitants of States holding slaves and those who do not ; can all these have embarked in any other than a righteous and good cause ;—yea, a cause, in which Faith raises its eye to the throne of God, and relies on the protection of his Almighty arm ; and Patriotism labors, as affording one of the surest means of securing the safety and union of our country ; and Philanthropy rejoices, as promising to bury in eternal ruin, the accursed markets of human flesh ; and Christianity triumphs, as preparing the way for diffusing the light of the gospel over a whole continent of one hundred millions of our fellow-men, who still " sit in darkness, and in the region and shadow of death."

Are there those among us who yet neglect, even to examine the claims which the American Colonization Society has upon the support of the public ? We beg them to inquire, to read, to investigate ; to look at facts and results, and not to be satisfied with hypothetical doubts, and surmises, and objections.

Is it said that public opinion can never be roused to such a degree as to furnish the hope of sufficient energy and resources to carry the designs of the Society into effect.



Look at the progress of public opinion since 1816, when the Society was formed. The legislatures of thirteen States have passed resolutions approving the object of the Society; and eleven of these have instructed their Senators and requested their Representatives in Congress, to approve and promote, in the General Government, measures for removing such free persons of color as are desirous of emigrating to Africa.

In fifteen States, (nine of which are non-slave-holding States,) State Societies have been formed, and besides these, one hundred and fifty-three County and Town Auxiliaries have been reported.

Is it said, that the owners of slaves will never be induced to manumit them in sufficient numbers, to encourage the Society to proceed, and to justify the expenses which it must incur. Look at facts. Applications for a passage to Liberia have recently been made for 600 slaves, and 1000 free people of color; and information has been received, from a respectable source, that not less than 2000 slaves would be liberated in North Carolina, provided there were reasons to expect their immediate removal. The last year the Colonists at Liberia amounted to 1400,—380 of whom were manumitted slaves, and 350 recaptured Africans.

Gentlemen of the highest respectability from the South, assure us, that there is among the owners of slaves a very extensive and increasing desire to emancipate them. Their patriotism, their humanity, nay their self-interest, prompt to this; but it is not expedient, it is not safe to do it, without being able to remove them. If permitted to remain they sink into vice and indolence and ruin; and contaminate the slave population; and thus render their future emancipation the more difficult and hopeless. Very many of their masters are ready to make them freemen, if they can go where they can live and act as industrious, virtuous freemen ought to do. Liberia is such a place; she stretches out her arms to receive them; twenty or twenty-five dollars will send an emancipated slave to the colony where he will enjoy civil and religious liberty, and rise to the dignity of a man, and have the comforts and the privileges of a christian, and become an instrument, in the hands of God, by his example and influence, of diffusing the same blessings among millions of his degraded countrymen. Nothing

but funds is wanting. Furnish them, and this mighty moral transformation advances. "Let the North and the South unite in this work of justice and benevolence. Let the South give up, (as they show themselves ready to do,) and let the North not hold back."

The influence which the American Colonization Society has already exerted, and which it is destined still more extensively to exert with regard to our slave population, is beyond our power to estimate. It is not a mere dream of hope, that it may become instrumental in removing entirely this blot upon our national character. Did time permit, the possibility, nay the probability of this might be made manifest. It is only to carry away each year, from among *the fathers and mothers*, a number greater than the annual accession to *this portion* of the whole slave population, and the approach becomes nearer and nearer to the desired result. The nation has abundant resources within itself to accomplish this in half a century ; and what is this in the life-time of our Republic, and what are the efforts that must be made, and the sums expended, compared with those devoted by a miserable band of miscreants to the removal each year of 100,000 of their fellow beings in chains from the coasts and interior of Africa? Cannot we, if we choose to do it, carry 50,000 back again to the land of their fathers?

In doing this, yea long before it can be accomplished ; even now, is the American Colonization Society through its infant colony at Liberia, becoming the instrument in the hands of God, of diffusing the cheering light of the gospel throughout one whole continent where it has scarcely begun to dawn. This consideration alone invests the subject with an importance which surely every friend of the Redeemer will acknowledge and feel. Need we appeal to him who knows the worth of souls, for his prayers and alms in this cause of Jesus Christ!

The day of our national jubilee is at hand. It falls on that sacred day of rest when He burst the bars of the tomb, who came to "bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." He still delights in mercy, and has said "blessed are the merciful, for they

shall obtain mercy." In his name, let us visit those who are in prison.

While enjoying the rich legacy our forefathers, and commemorating the birth day of our freedom, and cherishing the memory of those who dared to sound in the ears of royalty and proclaim to the world, that "all men are born free and equal," let us not be unmindful of our inconsistency and guilt in permitting two millions of our fellow men yet to remain in bondage. For guilty as a people we all are. If the South hold these slaves, *the North—the North*, carried on the principal traffic in dragging them originally from their native land, and selling them for "filthy lucre's sake." Let us not deceive ourselves and say to our brethren, "stand off, we are holier than ye." Let recrimination cease. Let repentance be deep and universal. Let the conscience of the nation awake as that of one man. Let us breathe united strength, and as each anniversary of our independence returns, let the whole country, rulers, and ruled, ministers and people, "young men and maidens, old men and children," come up to this work of mercy—nay to the fulfilment of this stern demand of justice; and thus, and thus only may we hope to arrest the anger of that Being whom we have offended, and to whom belongeth vengeance and recompence. "All kings shall fall down before Him; all nations shall serve Him. For He shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper."

*Receipts at the Treasury, from May 1, 1829, to May 10, 1830.*

By balance last year's account,	- - - - -	\$47 50
Contribution from Berlin, New-Britain soc. July 5, by Mr. Francis,	- - - - -	21 85
Berlin, Kensington soc. July 19, by Rev. Mr. Robbins,	- - - - -	10 00
Bridgeport, citizens, July 4, by Rev. Mr. Judah,	- - - - -	31 00
Canton, 1st soc. July 5, by Rev. Mr. Burt,	- - - - -	14 50
Canaan, 2d soc. July 5, by Rev. Mr. Cowles,	- - - - -	6 42
Coventry, N. soc. July 5, by Rev. Mr. Calhoun,	- - - - -	10 00
Derby, offering for July 4, by Rev. Mr. Bacon,	- - - - -	5 00
“ citizens, “ do. do. do.	- - - - -	10 40
East Windsor. 1st soc. July 4, by Rev. Mr. Whelpley,	- - - - -	16 00
“ “ 2d soc. July 5, by Rev. Mr. Bartlet,	- - - - -	12 50
East Hartford, citizens, July 4, by Rev. Mr. Robbins,	- - - - -	21 00
Farmington, 1st soc. July 4, by Edward Hooker, Esq.	- - - - -	18 39
Franklin, 1st soc. July 5, by Rev. Dr. Nott,	- - - - -	3 80
Fairfield, N. soc. July 4, by I. Seeley, Esq.	- - - - -	4 00
Hartford, 1st, 2d, and north soc. united, July 4,	- - - - -	70 00
“ N. sabbath school, making Mr. Daniel Copeland, superintend-	- - - - -	
“ ent, member for life, July 5,	- - - - -	10 08
“ Ladies Assoc. two payments, by Mrs. Peter Morton, Treas.	- - - - -	52 70
“ Methodist Episcopal Church, July 5, by Rev. Mr. Benedict,	- - - - -	7 35
“ S. sabbath school, July 4, by Mr. Francis,	- - - - -	5 19
“ Center sabbath school, July 4, by Mr. N. Smith,	- - - - -	15 51
Huntington, by Rev. Mr. Bacon, 1828,	- - - - -	9 23
Marlborough, citizens, July 4, by Rev. Dr. Lee,	- - - - -	10 00
New-Haven, early prayer meeting, July 4, by Rev. Mr. Bacon,	- - - - -	5 14
“ “ citizens, “ do. do.	- - - - -	56 50
“ “ a parishioner, through the post-office, do. do.	- - - - -	10 00
Norfolk, 1st soc. July 5, by Rev. Mr. Emerson,	- - - - -	21 00
New-Hartford, N. soc. July 4, by Mr. Dwight,	- - - - -	12 18
Norwich Lyceum and Mechanics Society, July 4, by Mr. Brewer, Treas.	- - - - -	31 36
Norwich Falls, citizens, July 4, by Mr. Adams,	- - - - -	8 00
Oxford, from Mr. S. G. Baldwin, donation,	- - - - -	3 00
“ “ Mr. S. W. Baldwin, do.	- - - - -	2 00
Prospect, from Mr. F. M. Benham, do.	- - - - -	1 50
“ “ Mr. I. Hotchkiss, do.	- - - - -	1 00
“ “ Mr. T. Benham, do.	- - - - -	50
Simsbury, 1st soc. July 19, by Benj. Ely, Esq.	- - - - -	10 07
“ from Elihu Case, donation, making him member for life,	- - - - -	200 00
Stamford, 1st soc. by Rev. Mr. Smith,	- - - - -	10 25
Thompson, 1st soc. by Rev. Mr. Dow,	- - - - -	5 00
Vernon, 1st soc. July 5, by Dea. Talcott,	- - - - -	15 34
Woodstock, 1st soc. July 5, by Rev. Mr. Crampton,	- - - - -	10 00
Wethersfield, Newington soc. July 5, by Rev. Mr. Brace,	- - - - -	8 51
Windham Co. Auxiliary Society, July 4, by Mr. Newbury Treas.	- - - - -	7 29
“ “ Temperance Society, July 4, by the same,	- - - - -	12 71
		<hr/>
		\$244 68
		<hr/>
Balance in the Treasury,		\$454 50

SETH TERRY, TREASURER.

Hartford, May 10, 1830.

COLLECTIONS.—1827-8	\$223 35
1828-9	169 40
1829-30	797 18.

**DR.***The Colonization Society of the State of Connecticut in account with Seth Terry as Treasurer.***CR.**

1829.				1829.			
May 22,	To cash paid Mr. Orr, Agent of the Am.			May 1,	By balance of last year's account, -	47	50
	Col. Society, - - - -	21	00		By amount of contributions and donations		
June 9,	To do. do. - - - -	20	00		from May 1, 1829, to May 10, 1830, -	797	18
	To cash paid printing Second Annual Re-						
	port—1000 copies, - - - -	38	50				
	To loss by counterfeit bill, - - - -	1	00				
Aug. 13,	To cash paid Treasurer Am. Col. Soc. -	300	00				
	To cash paid contingent expenses, Annual						
	Meeting, printing notices, postages, &c.	9	68				
1830.							
May 10,	To balance to new account, - - -	454	50				
		844	68	1830.		844	68
				May 10	By balance in the Treasury, - - -	454	50

**SETH TERRY,** *Treasurer.*

HARTFORD, May 10, 1830.

## APPENDIX.

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*Accessions to the Colony since the date of the last Report, May, 1829.*

The brig *Liberia*, chartered at the expense of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, sailed from Norfolk on the 16th of January last, with FIFTY-EIGHT colored passengers, *forty-nine of whom were liberated slaves*. Two Swiss Missionaries, Messrs. Rudolf Dietschy and H. Graner, sailed in the *Liberia*; and also Dr. J. W. Anderson, assistant Agent and Physician to the Colony.

The brig *Montgomery*, chartered by the same Society, sailed from Norfolk in April, with SEVENTY-FIVE free colored emigrants. Of these *more than fifty were liberated slaves*. Thirty were emancipated by Joel Early, Esq. of Georgia. These emigrants, it is said, "are generally sober industrious farmers and laborers, many of them religious persons, and two respectable preachers of the Baptist and Methodist Churches.

About *one hundred recaptured Africans*, sent out from Florida at the expense of the United States arrived at Monrovia in March last.

The present population of the Colony, including the recaptured Africans, is probably not far from 1700.

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### OPINIONS OF THE COLONISTS.

The present state of the Colony, and the views and feelings of the Colonists, may be learned from the following extracts from letters which have recently been published in different parts of this country.

*Extract of a letter from Mr. John B. Russworm, to A. R. Plumley, Esq. first published in the Boston Recorder.*

[Mr. Russworm is a colored man, a graduate of Bowdoin College in Maine, and late editor of "Freedom's Journal," in the city of New York. He is now editor of the "Liberia Herald," at Monrovia, the first number of which has recently been received in this country.]

*Government House, Monrovia, Nov. 18, 1829.*

MY DEAR SIR,—I embrace this opportunity by the departure of the *Susan* for the Leeward trade, to address you and a few other friends in the United States. We arrived here on the 12th inst., after the uncommonly long passage of 58 days, all in good health. In the high latitudes we were becalmed during 12 days; and off the Cape De Verds, 10 days more; but I feel thankful to our Maker that we suffered for nothing. By Capt. Woodbury and his officers and crew I have been treated with the greatest politeness. Should you pass through Beverly, I beg you to call on him, as he has often been on the coast and can give you much information. At the invitation of Dr. Mechlin, I am staying at the Agency's House. I am not sorry that my feet now rest on "terra firma" and in the land of my fathers, believing as I do, that it is decreed by Him who reigns above, that the descendants of Africa now in America must return and assist in the great work of evangelizing and civilizing the land: the decree has gone forth, that "Ethiopia shall stretch forth her hands unto God;" and were you here one sabbath, you would believe that the commencement of the prophecy was taking place. Ah! it is so pleasing to behold men who formerly groaned under oppression, walking in all the dignity of human nature, feeling and acting like men who had some great interest at stake; but still more pleasant to behold them assembled in the house of worship, rendering thanksgiving and prayer to Him who ruleth the nations in this land of heathen gods, surrounded by millions of immortal beings who are immersed in the grossest superstition "with eyes that see not, and ears that hear not."

I cannot describe what were my first sensations upon landing. The town contains double the number of houses one would expect, and I am informed of Caldwell and Millsburg, that each contains nearly as many. The Colonists here at Monrovia appear to be getting ahead fast; their principal dependence is trade with the natives, either in stores or factories established in the interior. The health of the Colony has been quite good; deaths but two, the last six months. The death of Dr. Randall has put a stop to all the public works. Dr. Mechlin is waiting for advice: it is his intention to put the press into operation, as he is now building an office. Of the five German missionaries only two remain on the coast; one is dead, two have returned to Europe, from whence they are expected daily with their wives and families. We have two religious societies which own meeting houses, Methodists and Baptists; the German missionary sometimes preaches in the Methodist church as they have none of their own; they both keep school; one here, the other at Caldwell; and are much esteemed by the settlers. The cause of education has not received that attention from all which it ought. In a new settlement have we a right to expect much, my dear sir? The majority of the settlers, being emigrants from the south of Maryland, have faint ideas of free schools. The Board of managers have pledged

their word that they would recommend the introduction of the free school system into the colony. But I believe they must do something more, as the colonists are hardly able to support a teacher. Mr. Shiphard from Richmond, who keeps the school here, complains very much that he has not received that support which was first promised him. He says he is almost discouraged. I have endeavored to encourage him, knowing from experience that of all men who labor in behalf of the public, teachers generally, receive poor pay. It is at best an unthankful office;—and did not we look beyond the present hour, our hearts would faint within us. We want means to build an academy and to establish more schools. Shall the appeal be made in vain to New England,—the land of schools? Shall we tell you that our children are perishing for lack of instruction? Shall the Macedonian cry come to your ears, and we be left to perish? I hope for better things. I hope some second Benezet will arise and go through the Union, pleading our cause: from the public feeling on this subject I know he will not plead in vain; ah, sir, when I commence on this subject I know not where to stop.

Yesterday I attended an examination of Mr. S.'s school; there were about 30 pupils present; they appeared, I assure you, very well; his first class recited in grammar and geography, and acquitted themselves creditably; the under classes did the same. After an examination of three hours I came away much pleased. Mr. Shiphard formerly taught in Richmond, Va. He complained much for the want of room. He ought to be encouraged; he is a member of the Presbyterian church, formerly preached in R. He is quite intelligent in conversation. I believe an Infant school might easily be put into operation, had we the necessary apparatus, and teachers. But I think I could qualify teachers, by observation and reading Mr. Bacon's publications which I have on the subject. Could not a Ladies' Society be formed in Boston for this purpose? Three hundred dollars would handsomely support two females. Tobacco, rum, pipes, cloth, iron pots, powder, and shot, are considered the currency of the country; so that if I owe a man fifty dollars I can pay him, if a settler or foreigner, in camwood at sixty dollars per ton, or in ivory at fifty cents for small teeth, or eighty cents for large, per pound; unless there was at the time of bargaining an express agreement to the contrary. Nothing can be done without rum in trade with the natives; of all the rum which is brought to the colony not one tenth is consumed by the settlers. If they hold a palaver or council with the natives, they must have rum to treat them. If they establish a new factory, they must have rum or nothing can be done. The present number of settlers amounts to 1500, and the farming establishments on the St. Paul's are said to be in fine order.

Provisions are brought into the Cape by the recaptured Africans, who are settled a few miles from here on lands which they call New Georgia. They amount to about 400, and are easily known from the surrounding natives by their dress and their copying as much as they can after the settlers. The great change which has taken place in their condition every way, would be enough to convince the most



sceptical; it seems that transplantation has improved their natures much, for while the natives who have the same chance still adhere to their old customs, these are advancing daily in the arts of civilization. Some of them are even mechanics, and work in the settlement as such. By natives I mean those who have never been from the coast of Africa. The nearest inland trade is that of Boatswain's people, about 150 miles distant. He is the Napoleon of these wilds, and formerly wrought as a common Krooman, though not one in vessels on the coast. He has always been favorable to the Colony, and looks with contempt upon the neighboring petty chiefs and kings, all of whom I suppose pay him tribute. He holds a market every day in his chief town; settles all disputes among his people with costs of suit, after the manner of his more civilized brother; and examines into the quality and quantity of such articles as are brought in for trade. His people are more civilized than their neighbors; when they appear among us, they wear pantaloons with a large piece of cloth tastefully thrown over their bodies. A colonist at present trades in his chief town. Yesterday I was visited by two Mandingoes who wrote Arabic with great care. They are a shrewd people. They came for the purpose of bartering some native cloth. Our captain who was present was equally astonished with myself. I showed them a Greek book, which they desired me to read and they would read Arabic. One prayed for some minutes to give us some idea of their pronunciation; which sounded like that of your friend the Prince Abdhul Rahihahman. They subsist principally by practising upon the superstitious notions of the other natives. They sell their charms, which consist chiefly of a few Arabic characters, as things of great value. They are called the god people, and their priests, gods. A settler must be uncommonly shrewd, if he gets the better of one in a bargain. They always inquire for new comers, as being less acquainted with their ways. They have even been known to price things and afterwards to go in search of some colonist to go and purchase them for them. They know the wholesale prices of things as well as the residents; and that gold and silver are worth a premium over the currency of the Colony. My health has been quite good as yet.

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*Letter from the Rev. George M. Erskine, to a gentl' man in Richmond,  
first published in the Southern Religious Telegraph.*

[Mr. Erskine is a native of Tennessee, a man of mature mind, of strong native sense, and of respectable attainments. He is a regular minister of the Presbyterian Church. He sailed in the Liberia.]

*Caldwell, March 9, 1830.*

REV. AND DEAR BROTHER,

We embarked on the 16th of Jan. 1830, and arrived at Monrovia February 28, after a pleasant voyage of 42 days. It was upon the whole a pleasant voyage—the emigrants are in number 58. No sickness worth naming except that of the sea, on the way, nor as yet. We are all yet together in a house prepared for the reception of emigrants, where we expect to remain till we pass the fever, should we

outlive it. There is a general satisfaction among the emigrants, they are pleased with their new country and present prospect; my own family have no desire to return. We were received by the agent and former emigrants with the strongest marks of friendship, and welcomed as citizens of Liberia. Our prospects of farms on which to live are inviting and flattering, being between Monrovia and Millsburg, on the bank of the St. Paul's. I presume the situation will be a *healthy* one—so soon as it becomes an open country, having a pleasant sea breeze from two directions. My dear sir, I believe this colony is a plant, planted by the great husbandman of the universe; to it he hath already proved a guardian—around it he hath erected his pavilion, and if the citizens only fear God and work righteousness and continue in union under a wholesome civil government and laws, from the flourishing state of the colony, there is reason to believe it will grow into a great empire. There is a large field for the labors of a gospel minister.—If the Lord will, it will give me much pleasure, indeed, to labor in this part of his moral vineyard. But in this his will be done. My time in this country being short—it is but little I can say about it. This much I can say, my expectations in coming to it are already realized. Never did I feel so much like a freeman as I have since I came here. I would heartily recommend to every freeman of color to leave the United States for Liberia and to any one that wishes to do well, particularly those who have a little property. Was I in Virginia, and had \$500, to lay out in Richmond, I could in a short time convert it into a fortune.

The thing most to be deplored in this colony is the want of a good school and an enlightened teacher for poor children whose parents cannot school them, for in this tropical country where there is an abundance of Gold, Ivory, Camwood, Coffee, and Sugar, Indigo, and many other lucrative fruits, we could have an enlightened Christian community. There is nothing to hinder it from rising to a level in point of eminence, wealth and power, among the most refined nations of the earth. There is no way in which those in America who feel friendly to this infant colony—can confer so great a favor on it as to establish a free school for the benefit of the poor children in it. This I hope you will influence them to do, there are many to whom I wish to write.

Good morning, my friend,

Your servant,

GEORGE M. ERKSINE.

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*Letter from Mr. Joseph Shiphard, to the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Virginia; published in the Southern Religious Telegraph.*

[Mr. Shiphard, says the editor of the Telegraph, "was a teacher for several years in this city, and is well known here as a respectable man, an intelligent and consistent professor of religion."]

Monrovia, March 8th, 1830.

MY DEAR PASTOR AND BROTHER IN CHRIST,

I have been absent, by order of the Governor, since the arrival of

the Liberia, till midnight last, on a survey of a country to be the emporium of the American empire in Africa. Your eye, sir, surely never saw a more inviting spot—hitherto occupied by the natives, and overlooked by our people ; it is now deserted by them for reasons I will write when time permits. While enjoying a short respite from great labor, in the midst of that fine forest, my mind rolled back to America, and recalled scenes never to recur with me. How many thousands of my brethren now languish in poverty, distress and thralldom at home, who might, if they really loved and would make a trifling sacrifice for liberty, be lords of this fertile land and masters of this majestic stream. Our comforts, sir, and conveniences are daily multiplying, and heightening, and I could dwell with pleasure on the beauty, fertility and advantages of our country, particularly that part I have lately surveyed, until I should be disgusting to one who loved it less than you.

I am happy in the hope that we too shall have here a house to worship in. Pray, sir, join me, not you only, but I would fain desire all who love the cause of social and religious liberty, to unite with me in prayer for the preservation of brother Erskine—our church and brethren here—and the general prosperity of this the only asylum for my oppressed brethren of the U. S.

Say to Mr. Rennie, I disposed of the seed he gave me to many, having on my arrival but a small opportunity to cultivate a garden. Some however, I sowed, and nearly all came to maturity and on a spot never before sown, though told by the old settlers it would produce nothing. I had the finest cabbages of different kinds ever seen in the colony ; several were 18 inches in diameter, and as sweet as the best I ever saw in the Richmond market ; they gave me and many others great relief, for which I am now grateful.

If gentlemen would build houses and furnish one year's subsistence for the emancipated sent here, our population will increase three times as fast as hitherto ; for confinement in contracted spaces causes at least nine-tenths of the deaths, and indiscretion is the cause of more than half the balance. It is indeed a fact not to be denied, though formerly much doubted, that new comers suffer ten times as much at the Cape as at St. Paul's, or as they would higher up the river ; they will hereafter have a hundred chances to one before, by going immediately up to the fresh water and high vegetable lands.

The Society have done a great thing for their Colony, in getting to this place John B. Russwurm, by which they have effectually contradicted, and he has denied, all he had propagated inimical to this place ; for many reasons, I am certain, the Lord has ordered this thing. All my family, including James Jones, desire to be remembered to you.

My wife, though at first disgusted on coming here, is now completely happy as any condition in this world could make her. When first we came, and I had to pay \$60 a year for a house, and all the children I brought, including James C. Minor from Fredericksburg, who joined me at Norfolk, were on my hands, the Agent having no room for them, all sick, and but one nurse, she sighed, she murmured, and re-

solved to return. I attempted to console her in vain—but when I got timber and began to build, she seemed to look for better days here, and became more calm in her expressions—when I got in a house of my own, though too small, and the survivors were over the fever, she said she believed one might do as well here as any where in the world. Getting a two story house I have just built, and seeing around those things in which she delighted, she declared she would not return if she could do it clear of cost, and those were foolish who did. I then thanked the Lord for enabling me to endure reproach while it lasted, and for converting it into pleasure. My son-in-law, James B. Lundy, who often mortified me with the expression of his discontent—my daughter, who only sighed her own sorrows lest she should increase mine—all are now glad they are here, and could not have done so well in three or four years any where else. Therefore, people should not be permitted to return short of a year after arriving here.

From the first moment I resolved to come I resolved to die here, and have never once regretted what I even now think was the direction of the Lord.

With high esteem, yours in christian bonds.

JOSEPH SHIPHARD.

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*Extract of a letter from Mr. Shiphard, to Mr. Joseph E. Cooke, of Norfolk, Va. ; first published in the Norfolk Herald.*

Like almost all others who have come here, Mr. Lundy, at his arrival, believed he knew enough of the country to write correctly concerning it ; but six months' residence, proves the contrary. He, like others who have read and travelled but little, expected too much from a new colony. He was consequently disappointed at first, and disappointment is the parent of disgust, aversion, and prejudice. While his mind was filled with all these shocking demons, he indiscreetly penned to you a letter, which has been published in the Norfolk Herald, but which he now regrets because his judgment was erroneous, he having then only seen the colony under the darkest shade.

He has now plenty of work, that pays him well ; has built a comfortable house, and is highly respected as a good citizen, performing cheerfully all the duties of such, for merit only makes a man respected, and that does not fail here. There is no place within my knowledge, where poor men are better paid, and consequently where they rise more rapidly to a comfortable condition : nor durst the rich, if any of us can be called so, withhold the laborer's wages from him twenty-four hours, without his permission.

Many of our expedition being entirely destitute of supplies of their own, had to depend on the public : and little as our friends may think of palm oil and rice, when arriving here, they will soon prefer them to the best pork and corn meal, and to many other things they have been in the habit of considering as delicacies.

We happened to arrive at a time of the year when these articles could not be as good as when new, and fresh ; and like our bacon, butter, corn, &c. at home, the oil had become a little rancid, and the

rice somewhat musty ; and this was the food issued to the indigent. And is the colony or the Society to blame for this ? Is not the sufferings of the colonists under these circumstances, clearly to be traced to their indolence, their want of foresight, or their carelessness ? And what right has any man to look a gift horse in the mouth ? I have never been, as I hope you can testify, famous for falsehood, and I will assure you our own indiscretion is one of the most fertile sources of our sufferings ; but the colonists have learnt, from our condition, a lesson by which they may avoid our disasters.

### EXPEDITION UP THE ST. PAUL'S RIVER.

*Extracts from a letter from the late Dr. Randall.*

MONROVIA, FEB. 15, 1829.

As soon as I had finished my business with the Shark, and she had sailed, I determined to set off on an exploring expedition up the St. Paul's, which had been hitherto unexplored by civilized man, except to Millsburg, the head of safe navigation. I left this the day previous, so as to take a fair start from Millsburgh, our frontier post. The river from its mouth is most beautiful : its banks are high and broken, and covered with the most dense and variegated verdure. Along the banks here and there, we observed an African town, with the thatched huts intermingled with the broad green leaf of the plaintain, of which the beautiful pea-green color distinguishes it from all surrounding verdure. On our approach to one of those villages, which is always announced by our boatmen with their African Boat Song, we generally found all the inhabitants, men, women, and children, assembled on the beach too see and receive us. After passing half a dozen of these villages on the St Paul's' and ascending 20 miles, we arrived at Millsburgh, where we slept in country fashion, but had a good supper from our store basket. In the morning early we left the settlement with our little party, (which soon however magnified itself into a pretty large one,) as the natives say, " to go into the bush." One of the most enterprising of our settlers had penetrated along one of the branches of the river, by following the paths made by the wild cattle, for about two miles, and we determined to follow the same path as far as it would lead us. As the underwood here is the most dense and close that can be imagined, the course of procedure is to send forward, to clear the path, two or three of the natives with their short straight cutlasses, with which they open the path with great facility. By thus cutting a passage through the underwood, without cutting the large trees or shrubbery, a perfect alcove is formed, and you are entirely protected from the action of the sun, which is only now and then visible through an opening in the trees. When we had advanced about two miles on our route, we came to a point where the St. Paul's was joined by a considerable stream, which at first we concluded was a river from the North ; but upon ascending the river to a higher point, we ascertained that it was only a branch which had separated above and united at this spot. We were exceedingly anxious to cross the river,

to survey the beautiful island opposite ; but as there was no other means of getting over, except by a native bridge, we had to abandon the idea. The native bridges are constructed of ratan or country rope, and consist merely of cords drawn across the river, to prevent the current from sweeping the swimmer down, and are sometimes to the unskilful more dangerous than useful. I was astonished to find the St. Paul's here, contrary to my expectations, most clear and limpid. Most of the African rivers are said to be turbid and muddy ; but in the St. Paul's, the bottom was visible at 20 feet, and the fish, which were numerous, could be seen for many yards from us. As we advanced further on our route up the northern branch, which we determined to pursue till we came to the main stream again, our path was crossed by many more recent wild cattle tracks, all leading to, or from, the river, and we occasionally saw the broad foot-print of an elephant. After following the course of this branch of the river for two hours, we found that we would have to leave it, or deviate from the course by which we expected to strike the St. Paul's above, where the natives told us it made a great sweep or bend, and "made trouble or fuss." We therefore left the river and kept on northward by a cattle path, which soon brought us to a prairie ; and the numerous palm and cotton trees, soon convinced us that this had, at some former period, been the seat of an extensive and populous native settlement. The appearance of the solitary palm trees, is most truly majestic. In a plain on which there is no shrub six feet high, a half dozen of these fine trees will elevate their smooth round trunks, without a branch, 80 or 100 feet, and then expanding their heads, by opening their broad pea-green leaves, they form a beautiful umbrella, some twenty or 30 feet in diameter. After following a strait line through the prairie, which appeared to have been the favorite resort of the wild cattle and elephants, about two or three hour's walk, we began to hear the roar of the cataract, and now became convinced that we had taken the proper course and would soon again be in sight of the river. The river broke upon our view just as we had ascended the height of a considerable mountain, which appeared to thrust itself immediately in our path. From this height, which is nearly 200 feet, I had a view of the St. Paul's, only intercepted here and there by the density of the foliage. I now found what the natives had described as a tremendous cataract or fall, was merely rapids in the river, produced by the sudden obstruction of its course offered by the chain of hills on the point of which I then stood. As soon as I was able, (for we had all been completely broken down in the ascent,) I commenced the descent to the river, down a bank so steep, that nothing but a strict adherence to the underwood, could save us from falling down the declivity.

On arriving at the foot of the precipice, close down to the edge of the river, I found that the sweep of the river from its original course was caused by its choosing the direction of this high chain of hills. The St. Paul's here is wider, deeper, and contains much more water than the Potomac. It is a much more beautiful stream too ; for its banks, though fully as precipitous, are clothed with the richest verdure, and this verdure is of a more variegated character.

The innumerable islands which were scattered in front of us, appeared each one intended to catch, in its descent of the stream, some particular plant or shrub, and afford for it shelter and protection, for scarce two of them were alike in their foliage. As most of these shrubs too were different from those in the surrounding woods, we had no doubt that their seeds and roots had been brought down by the inundations of the annual rains. Many of them are perhaps from the foot of the Kong Mountains. After resting ourselves, it became necessary to determine whether we should return immediately, or by advancing farther, render it necessary to spend the night in the woods. We ascertained that our provisions would be sufficient to give all hands a hearty supper, and resolved to advance and gain if possible the point where the river first enters the mountains, in order to ascertain the general course of the river before it took this turn. We continued to travel over the rough and precipitous shores of the river for about two hours, until we arrived at a point which presented to our view the first distinct fall we had seen. At this point we came to a beautiful valley, where a small stream rushing down the rocks, precipitated itself into a natural circular basin of rock, which presented the appearance of an artificial basin. We determined at once to take up our quarters for the night, and began making our preparations accordingly. We soon had a considerable space of wood cleared; built an arbor; and our natives surrounded us on all sides, with large fires, to protect us from the wild beasts. I felt no necessity for using such precautions, as our party was strong enough in fire arms to defy them; but I encouraged them to keep them up, as the best security against the bad effects of the night air. The next morning we arose early, and after each one had carved his name or made his mark on some prominent tree, to show at some future period that he had been one of the discoverers of this lovely spot, we took up our line of march for Millsburg. Our journey back was equally if not more eventful than that of the preceding day, but I must refer you to my journal for particulars.

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*Letter from Capt. W. E. Sherman, captain of the Liberia, which carried the colonists to Liberia in January last.*

[The author is an experienced, pious master of a ship, well known to many of the most respectable merchants in New-York and Philadelphia.]

*Philadelphia, May 10, 1830.*

MR EDWARD HALLOWELL,

*Dear Sir*—As you expressed a wish that I should commit to writing some account of our colony in Africa, for your own information and that of your friends, I with pleasure comply with your request, and will give you all the information I could obtain in the three weeks I was there last March.

The tract of country purchased by the Colonization Society of the United States, from African kings, with a view of providing an asylum for emancipated slaves, and a residence for any free persons of color who might be desirous of going thither, is called, as you very well know, by the appropriate name of *Liberia*.

The first settlement and capital of the colony is *Monrovia*, situated in lat. 6. 21, N. and 10, 30, W. long., about a quarter of a mile above the mouth of the river Montserado, and about three quarters of a mile from the point of the cape, bearing the same name. The river St. Paul empties into the sea a short distance from the Montserado. For the first two years, the emigrants lived in small thatched houses, and about five years ago, the first dwelling constructed of timber and boards, was built on the site of the present town, in a forest of trees of towering height, and a thick underwood. Tigers entering this (then) little village, have been shot from the doors. The first settlers had many difficulties to encounter, as is usually the case in establishing a new settlement ; but all those difficulties have been happily overcome, and the people are now enjoying the benefits of their persevering industry.

Monrovia, at present, consists of about *ninety dwelling houses*, and *stores, two houses for public worship*, and a *court house*. Many of the dwellings are handsome and convenient, and all of them comfortable. The plot of the town is cleared more than a mile square, elevated about seventy feet above the level of the sea, and contains *seven hundred* inhabitants. The streets are generally one hundred feet wide, and, like those of our good city, intersect each other at right angles. The Colonization Society have an agent and physician there.

The agent is the chief magistrate of the colony, and the physician his assistant. No white people are allowed to reside in the colony for the purpose of trade, or of pursuing any mechanical business, such being intended for the exclusive benefit of colored people. The colonial secretary, collector of customs, surveyor, and constables, are appointed by the agent ;—the vice-agent, sheriff, treasurer, and all other civil officers are elective, and all the offices except that of the agent and physician are filled by colored people.

The court holds its sessions on the first Monday in every month ; juries are empannelled as with us, and its jurisdiction extends over the whole colony. The trials are, principally, for larceny, and the criminals generally natives, who commit thefts in the settlements. A few instances of kidnapping have occurred ; these depredations were committed on the recaptured Africans. To the honor of the emigrants be it mentioned, that but five of their number have been committed for stealing or misdemeanor since 1827.

Two native kings have put themselves and their subjects (supposed to amount to ten thousand,) under the protection of the colony, and are ready, should it be thought necessary or expedient by the settlers to put into their hands arms, to make common cause with them in case of hostilities by any of the natives ; which, however, is not anticipated, as the most friendly disposition is manifested by all the natives of the country from whom any danger might have been apprehended.

The township of *Caldwell* is about seven miles from Monrovia, on St. Paul's river, and contains a population of five hundred and sixty agriculturalists. The soil is exceedingly fertile, the situation pleasant, and the people satisfied and happy. The emigrants carried out by



me, and from whom I received a pleasing and satisfactory account of that part of the country, are located there.

*Millsburg* is situated twenty-five miles from Monrovia, on the *St. Paul's*, at the head of tide water, where there are never failing streams, sufficient for one hundred mills; and there is timber enough in the immediate neighborhood for their employment, if used for the purpose of sawing, for half a century. The town contains two hundred inhabitants.

Bushrod's Island, which separates the Montserado from the *St. Paul's* river, is seven miles in length, three at its extreme breadth, about five miles from Monrovia, and is very fertile; on this island are settled thirty families from the *Corolinas*. All the above settlers, amounting to at least fifteen hundred, are emigrants from the United States.

On the left bank of Stockton Creek, and near the settlement on Bushrod's Island, the recaptured Africans are located; two hundred and fifty of whom were sent out by the government of the United States, and one hundred and fifty taken by the colonists from the Spanish factories; the agents of which having bought some of our kidnapped Africans, and refusing to give them up, the colonists not only took their own people but the slaves they had collected. These four hundred, who are useful agriculturalists, are happily situated and very contented. The settlements of which I have spoken, contain, in the aggregate, nearly two thousand souls, and are in a flourishing condition.

I have been frequently asked, since my return from Liberia, whether there is no danger of the natives breaking in upon the colonists and destroying them. The best answer I can give to this question, in addition to what I have already said, is a statement of the following facts.

When the colonists could muster but thirty effective men for defence, and when the forest was in pistol shot of their houses, five thousand of the natives, armed with muskets and other weapons of war, made an attack upon them in three divisions. A part of this little band were surprised by the left division, who took possession of one of their two cannon, a nine pounder; but instead of making use of it, (if indeed they knew how,) for the piece was loaded with grape and round shot, and a lighted match placed near it, the possessors were seen embracing it, powwowing over it, and vociferating, "big gun, big gun," till the other, a four pounder, was brought to bear on them under the direction of Lot Cary, and plied with so much precision and activity, that they retreated. The gun was retaken and turned on the invaders, when they made their escape to the forest. There was some skirmishing from the bush until one of their Gree-gree\* men was slain, carried off by our men, and thrown into the river. This event entirely disheartened them, they went off, and have from that time never appeared in hostile array against the colonists. Many of them have traded with the colony ever since, but they would not acknowledge that they were engaged in the war, till, from an intercourse of some time, they found it would not be remembered to their prejudice. They then related many singular and amusing anecdotes respecting

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\* Gree-gree men are a kind of prophets or conjurers.

it, and acknowledged the loss of seventy to eighty men killed. If I remember right, the colonists lost but two or three of their little band.

The means the colony have for defence, at present consist of twenty pieces of ordinance, and muskets, &c; for 1000 men, which may be increased from private stores if wanted. In Monrovia there are, Capt. Steward's company of Infantry, Weaver's company of Artillery, and Drapers' company of Rifle Rangers. In Caldwell, Davis' company of Infantry, and Brown's of Artillery. In Millsburg, White's company of Rifle Rangers. All these are volunteers and in uniform; besides which, a respectable number of militia, not in uniform, and as many of the natives under the protection of the colonial government as it may think proper to arm. These facts will, I think, satisfy any man as to the safety of the colonists from attacks by the natives.

There is a respectable fort on Cape Montserado, which commands the roadstead, and has protected an English vessel chased in by a pirate. The military are commanded by Major Barbour—the *commander in Chief*, is the society's agent.

There is much hospitality to be found in Monrovia, and among the inhabitants a greater proportion of moral and religious characters than in this city. I never saw a man intoxicated, nor heard any profane swearing during the three weeks I was among them.

The two houses for religious worship already noticed, are Baptist and Methodist—the Baptists have three and Methodists five preachers, all intelligent colored men, merchants and traders, residing among them; so that the people have nothing to pay for the support of ministers. Five German Missionaries, so do ministers and teachers reside there, a portion of whom preach at the Methodist church occasionally.

A trading company has been formed at Monrovia, with a capital of \$4,000, and an agreement entered into that no dividend shall be made until the profits increase the capital to \$20,000. The stock has risen from 50 to 75 dollars per share, in one year.

It has been objected that the climate is very unhealthy,—this is true as respects the whites, but erroneous as respects the colored people. Those from the middle and northern states have to undergo what is called a seasoning,—that is, they generally take the fever the first month of their residence, but it has rarely proved fatal, since accommodations have been prepared for their reception, those from Georgia, the Carolinas, and the southern parts of Virginia, either escape the fever altogether, or have it very slightly. Deaths occur there, indeed, as in other places, but Doctor Mechlin, the agent, assured me that the bills of mortality would show a less proportion of deaths, than those of Baltimore, Philadelphia or New York.

I have given you a statement of facts as nearly as I could ascertain them. If there be any errors, they are, I am persuaded, unimportant, for my information has been derived from respectable sources in that country, and my own observation induces me to believe that what I have written is substantially correct.

I will add my opinion, though I fear you may think it presumptuous. I have no hesitation in saying that I believe Liberia will, in time, become a great nation, and be the means, eventually, of civilizing a great

part of Africa, and I should hope the whole of that benighted country. There are already in Monrovia, at least 60 children of native parents, and there would be, if wanted, many more.

Do you ask what kind of government the Liberians would establish, if a great nation and left to themselves; I answer, a republican, unquestionably. The intelligent emigrants having been brought up in this country, and the first laws in operation among them being republican, they would be as well prepared for happiness under such a government, as any people in the world. The adult male inhabitants consider themselves *men*, and know how to enjoy the blessings of a free institution, and will never surrender their liberties, but with their lives. They are now as patriotic Americans as our fore-fathers were loyal subjects of the kings of England. Should they receive no further aid from this country, they will nevertheless, in my opinion, attain to greatness eventually, but if that aid which I think they so justly deserve, should be continued, their progress to this end will be greatly accelerated.

Some are of opinion that Hayti is preferable to Liberia for colored people to emigrate to; a little reflection will, I think, show the error of this opinion. Hayti is and ever has been in the hands of military despots; the Haytians have never known what rational liberty was nor ever can. Experience has shown this to be the case. What would people of color from this country gain by going to Hayti?—they would be kept as laborers, “hewers of wood and drawers of water,” to the haughty Haytian. They would have no share in the government, and could never rise to any degree of eminence. If they must have masters, they prefer white to those of their own color; this I have found to be universally their sentiment. The manners and customs of the Haytians are different from those of our people as is their language. The religious and even moral colored people, cannot be happy where the sabbath is a day of revelry and dissipation, and they considered as heretics, and where the morals of the people are little better than those of the native African.

Many of our citizens seem to think that the object and only object of the Colonization Society, is to get clear of a surplus colored population; I have very little personal acquaintance with any of the members, but I never can attribute a motive so selfish to that society; nor do I believe there can be found one among them who does not know that the increase by births in this country, is greater than the number they can transport to Liberia in any given year. Their objects then can only be the laudable ones of bettering the condition of an injured people, diminishing slavery in our country, and the civilization of Africa, all which appears to me attainable.

You may say I have given you much extraneous matter, which has but little bearing on the main question—true, but I am writing to a friend, whose goodness I know will pardon this digression, and who can expect no better from an old seaman.

Yours, truly,  
W. E. SHERMAN.